

2012 Clean Water Indiana Grant



The Clean Water Indiana (CWI) Program was established to provide financial assistance to landowners and conservation groups. The financial assistance supports the implementation of conservation practices which will reduce nonpoint sources of water pollution through education, technical assistance, training, and cost sharing programs.

The CWI fund is administered by the Division of Soil Conservation under the direction of the State Soil Conservation Board. The (CWI) Program is responsible for providing local matching funds as well as grants for sediment and nutrient reduction projects through Indiana's Soil and Water Conservation Districts. CWI also contributes critical state matching funds for Indiana's Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, an initiative which utilizes federal funds to encourage landowners to conserve environmentally sensitive land.

Furthermore, the (CWI) Program has supported the Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative which focuses on management systems approach to crop production which results in improved soil and water quality as well as profitability on Indiana cropland.

During state fiscal year 2012, the State Soil Conservation Board awarded 21 Clean Water Indiana grants totaling \$1,078,000. Grant funds can be used for Cost Share Incentives, Technical Assistance, and Adult Education (maximum of \$1,000 per year).

LEAD DISTRICT: JENNINGS
COLLABORATING DISTRICTS: DECATUR, BARTHOLOMEW
TARGET WATERSHED: UPPER EAST FORK WHITE
PROJECT NAME: CONSERVATION SYSTEM TO IMPROVE SOIL HEALTH
PROJECT DATES: 1/1/2012-12/31/2014
PROJECT AMOUNT: \$60,000

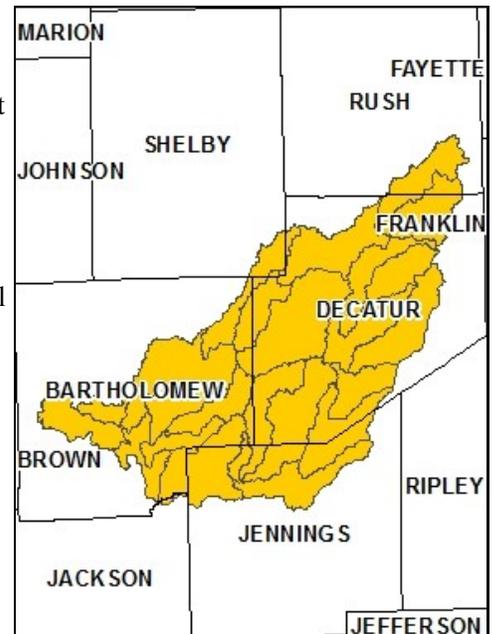


Purpose: Promote the use of practices that improve soil health, reduce erosion and reduce sediment and nutrient runoff

The project provides incentive payments to landowners who apply no-till, cover crops, nutrient management and, as needed, buffer practices. SWCDs will put out demonstration plots for cover crops and hold workshops or field days to educate landowners regarding practices and soil health benefits. The SWCD's personnel will provide technical assistance for planning and implementing practices. The SWCDs will offer to provide guided stalk sampling to landowners and discuss test results to help analyze nitrogen usage in corn fields.

This area already has an approved Mississippi River Basin Initiative project which is being implemented to address the problems of excessive nutrient runoff and sediment reaching our streams. This CWI project will provide more incentives to the landowners of the watershed and help implement more practices.

Because of the involvement of the three counties in the MRBI effort, many activities, such as demonstration plots and field days are already planned. The addition of this project will encourage landowners to apply more practices in the MRBI project area.



YEAR 1 GRANT STATUS

COST SHARE ACRES:
1,710
DIRECT CONTACTS MADE:
20

Farmers will be paid an incentive of \$20 per acre if they apply a combination of practices including no-till, cover crops, and nutrient management.

